



AAUW

ALBUQUERQUE BRANCH

PO Box 92643
Albuquerque NM 87199-2643

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APRIL - MAY 2010
www.aauw-nm.org

Newsletter

Annual Meeting
Saturday, April 10
2:00-4:00 p.m.

Asbury Methodist Church
10000 Candelaria Rd NE

Election of officers for AAUW Albuquerque
Branch 2010-2012

Announcements-Refreshments

Program: "China in the Fog"
Slide show and commentary by
Betty Benson

Betty, member and past president,
recently spent three weeks traveling in
China. She will share her experiences
and newly gained insights with us.

Highlights also covered will include Beijing
during the celebration of the 60th anniversary
of the founding of the People's
Republic of China, the Great Wall and the
terracotta warriors, tombs, and a trip
down the Yangtze River.

Report of the Nominating Committee:
Co-Presidents: Ted Cooley and Sylvia Fink
Vice-President Membership: Marilyn Dunn
Secretary: Louise Gerstle
AAUW Funds Chair: Marianne Helgesen
International Relations: Carmen Graham
Public Policy: Dixie Trebbe
Nominations Chair: Betty Benson
Director- at-Large: to be nominated from
the floor

Nominating Committee:
Betty Benson, Chair.
Mary Campbell, Chris Hill,
Suzanne Weissman,
Roberta Wellems.

May General Meeting
Saturday, May 1
9:30 a.m.

Chef Jim White's Café at the
"Design Center"
4801 Alameda NE

NW corner of Alameda and
Jefferson, parking ample and easy

Breakfast Buffet at 9:45
Fresh fruit, quiche,
Assorted breads, beverage

Program at 10:30
"Molecular Medicine and Cancer:
Molecular Taxonomy of a Good Outcome
Cluster of Pediatric Acute Lymphocytic
Leukemia Patients"

Presented by
Kathleen Holt-Larese,
BS, MBA

Ms. Holt-Larese's presentation
will focus on her research and how
molecular medicine has affected
diagnostic therapeutics.

She is currently a member of
Technical Staff of in the Radiological
Management and Energy Department
at Sandia National Laboratories as a
chemist. She has had eight years of
experience as a chemist (radio
chemistry) and is completing a MS in
biomedical science from the UNM
School of Medicine.

Installation of 2010-2012
Branch officers at 11:30

For late reservations and/or
cancellations, please contact
Antje Muir, 821-7966

CALENDAR

April 16, Trip to El Camino Real
April 17, Women Across Borders
April 17 evening, April 18 to noon
AAUW-NM Convention

General Meetings

Saturday, April 10, 2-4 p.m.
Asbury United Methodist Church
Saturday, May 1, 9:30 a.m.
Chef Jim White's Café

Board Meetings

Monday, April 5, 11:45 a.m.
Monday, May 3, 11:45 a.m.
New Mexico Commission on the
Status of Women
1300 San Mateo Blvd. NE #101

August-September

Newsletter deadline: July 15
Editor: Pat Freeman, 254-1304

Change of address:

Kathleen Holt-Larese
12 Los Balcones Pl. NE
Rio Rancho 87124

In Memoriam:

*Mary Anis Johnson a member of
Albuquerque Branch since 1978*

Emile Nakhleh, speaking at our March General Meeting, described America's relations with the Muslim world, the topic of his latest book ([A Necessary Engagement](#), Princeton University Press, 2009). We were extremely fortunate to have had him share his remarkable and authoritative grasp gathered through many years of extensive research, analysis and personal experiences. You can find an excellent review of his book at <http://whirledview>

Albuquerque Branch AAUW
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year (August-September;
October-November; December-
January; February-March; April-May)
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Albuquerque NM 87199-2643

President's Comments

With the spring winds comes the breath of change. My thanks to Janet Ford and Carmen Graham for covering our share of the Women's Expo on April 6, as it was at the same time as our general meeting. Cheryl Klenner and members of the West Mesa Branch took charge.

My profound thanks to Betty Benson and the rest of the nominating committee for their work in finding nominees for offices for the coming years.

Ideas are already being circulated for programming next year, but all suggestions are welcome. Please be sure to give your suggestions to Antje Muir.

There is still a little room on the El Camino Real tour and a lot of room for the conference and convention on April 17-18. Information and a registration form for the Women Across Borders Conference are enclosed in this issue. The conference has been in the works for two years. The cost is very modest for such an important event.

Ted Cooley

Wrap-up on the State Legislature

During this legislative session, there was a lot of work **not** done. In some ways that is good because some of the suggested bills did not benefit the people of New Mexico. This was not a good year to recommend the "citizen legislature."

Bills. Only few bills on my list were signed.

SB 195 *Sunshine Portal Transparency Act* by Senator Sander Rue was signed as amended by Lt. Gov. Denish. 3/5/2010 while the Governor was out of state. This bill sets up web sites and a date to show salaries paid to appointed state employees.

HB 64 *School Equalization Distribution Date Changed* by Rep. Rick Miera was signed Feb. 5th. Concerns Public School Finance. Allowing the State Equalization Guarantee Distribution Program Unit Value to be set at a date later than Jan. 31, 2010. Provides for adjustment in anticipation of Federal State Fiscal Stabilization Funding: Declared an Emergency.

HB 165 *Whistleblower Protection Program* by Rep. J. Cervantes was signed March 1st. It was related to Public Employment: Prohibits Public Employer Retaliatory Action Against Public Employees in certain situations: Created a right to Civil Action for damages.

HB2 *General Appropriations Act of 2010* by Rep. H. Saavedra passed both the House and Senate as amended on March 3rd but I have not heard that it has been signed yet. This represents the Legislative Finance Committee's recommendations for funding operations of state government but was trimmed considerably in the Special Session.

Memorials can serve different functions: # Assign a certain day of the year in honor of something, such as the Boy Scouts; # Allow a study for one year on a subject; # Continue a study from a previous year if they don't think they got enough information, or if it didn't prove what they wanted.

Many Memorials were signed. Memorials my list were as follows:

HM 2 NM *Speech and Hearing Association Day* by Rep. Jeanette Wallace. Signed.

HM 16 *NMSU Course on Elected Official Ethics* by Rep. N. Cote. Signed. Request to develop and Ethics course for public officials and be given as part of the orientation training.

HM 9 *Continue Review of State Transportation Needs* by Rep. P. Lundstrom. Signed. Request a continuation of 2009 review of state's current and future transportation needs to identify appropriate funding strategies of a sustainable transportation system.

HM 28 *Medicaid Importance and Task Force* by Rep. M. Stewart. Signed. Opposed drastic reductions in Medicaid eligibility and benefits. Request a task force to recommend improvements to the Medicaid program to use available resources and meet federal requirements.

HM 29 *Policy for Detention of 18 to 20 Yr Olds* by Rep. Rick Miera. Signed. Requests CYFD to convene a group to create policy for detention of youth 18 to 20 years of age.

HM 31 *Female Prison Population Task Force* by Rep. G. Chasey. Signed. Request 2008 Task Force continue working to implement and design effective solutions for female population in corrections system.

HM 35 *Economic Security of NM Women and Families* by Rep. D. Picraux. Signed. Requests Task Force assess and recommend policy options to address economic security and health and perform a statewide survey of employee benefits.

HM 46 *Study Reading and Math Scores and Dropout Rates* by Rep. J. Steinborn. Signed. Request Public Education Dept study the correlation between 4th and 8th grade reading and math proficiency scores and high school dropout rates.

Dixie Trebbe, Public Policy

Interest Group News

INTEREST GROUP CHAIR Marilyn Dunn 299-5487

MORNING

ART: DRAWING, PAINTING AND FABRIC ARTS: Most Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., or any hours in between, at Monte Vista Christian Church, to do individual art projects and enjoy fellowship of others interested in art. To learn more, please call **Chair: Chris Hill, 828-3926.**

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: 2 Fridays, 10:00 a.m., home of Jan and Olin Bray, 7041 Prairie Ct, NE. **April 9**, Great Decisions: Global Financial Crisis led by Peggy Merrell. **May 14**, China Looks at the World, led by Tom and Roberta Welles. **Chair: Jan Lifson Bray, 292-7270.**

MORNING CUISINE: 3rd Tuesdays, at 9:30 a.m. **April 20**, home of Chris Hill, 7912 William Moyers, NE, 828-3926. **May 18**, home of Marge Barcheck, 921 Purple Aster, Bernalillo, 771-9427. **Chair: Carolyn Kaye, 323-5288.**

AFTERNOON

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES: 1st Tuesdays, at 1 p.m. **April 6**, home of Susan Brand, 6908 Gabbro, NE, 821-4006. (From Paseo del Norte, north on Louisiana, past Alameda, left on Eagle Rock, right on Obsidian, right on Gabbro.) Susan will show her doll collection, antique and modern. **May 4**, home of Trudi Handleman, 11428 Pine Top Lane, NE, 293-0235. Co-hostess, Marion Isidoro. Subject: Coffee Table Books. **Chair: Mary Campbell, 265-9365, Co-Chair: Marilyn Klett, 884-8354.**

CURRENT LITERATURE: 2nd Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. **April 13**, home of Ann Carden, 6704 Loftus, NE, 884-8211, Sheila Richmond, co-hostess. Subject: the 2009–2010 Traveling Library books. Traveling Library members please bring books to Ann's that day to turn in for the sale next month. Books for the new year will be ready for pick-up. **May 11** we will meet at the Range Café in Bernalillo at 11:30 am for lunch, and then go to Marge Barcheck's home, 921 Purple Aster, Bernalillo, 771-9427, for the sale of the 2009–2010 Traveling Library books. We will discuss routes to Bernalillo and possible car-pooling at the March and April meetings. **Chair: Ann Carden, 884-8211.**

MY STORY: 2nd Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. Are you interested in putting your life's story on paper? For more information, please contact **Chair: Louise Miller, 255-7768.**

AFTERNOON MYSTERY: 1st Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. **April 1**, home of Betty Benson, 7909 Hendrix Pl., NE, 294-1658. Book to be discussed: Any book by Dick Francis. Please call hostess if coming. **May 6**, home of JoAnn Mercer, 7112 Ottawa, NE, 268-8001. Book to be discussed: *Amendment of Life*, by Catherine Aird. Please call hostess if coming. **Chair: JoAnn Mercer, 268-8001.**

TRAVEL: 4th Mondays at 1:30 p.m. **April 26**, home of Betty Benson, 7909 Hendrix, NE, 294-1658. Betty will present a program on her recent trip to China. Attendees should wear or bring information on clothes they wear when traveling. Please let hostess know if you plan to attend. **May 24**, home of Mary Strohacker, 5014 Glenwood Hills, NE, 293-1705. Mary will present a program on Ireland. Please let hostess know if you plan to attend by phone or e-mail M5380@aol.com. **Chair: Suzanne Weissman, 294-5626, sweissmans@msn.com.**

EVENING

EVENING CUISINE: 2nd Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. **April 8**, St. Clair Winery, 901 Rio Grande Blvd, NE. **Saturday May 9**, home of Marianne Helgesen, south of Tijeras. Members may bring a guest. Coordinating recipes will be assigned by the hostess. **Chair: Marianne Helgesen, 286-8956.**

EVENING LITERATURE DISCUSSION: 3rd Mondays at 7:30 p.m. **April 19**, home of Diane Vadnais, 8711 Ridge Point Loop, NE, 323-1924. Book for discussion: *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery. **May 17**, home of Mary Strohacker, 293-1705. Book for discussion: *The 19th Wife* by David Ebershoff. This group meets through the summer. For information, please contact **Chair: Sheila Richmond, 856-0245.**

VARIABLE SCHEDULES

COUPLES GOURMET: The group meets at members' homes to enjoy a gourmet meal prepared by all of us. Gatherings are scheduled throughout the year. New couples welcome. Call for information. **Chair: Janet Ford, 292-7821.**

Our greatest thanks to *Marge Barcheck* for gathering and preparing all the interest group information for the branch newsletter--- for many years !

Important News in Education

New Mexico is one of eight states to participate in the early high school graduation program. The program was organized by the National Center for Education and Economy (NCEE), a Washington-based nonprofit. NCEE will work with states to provide college preparatory curricula for high schools so that students can take rigorous world class board exams to exit high school early and possibly enroll in college. These students will be encouraged to remain in high school to continue taking college prep courses during their junior and senior high school years if they wish to enter ivy league universities. *

Last September, the U.S. House passed the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (HR 3221). This bill, one of the

single largest investments in higher education in U.S. history, will make college more affordable for millions of students and their families at no new cost to taxpayers. As of February 25, the Senate had yet to act on this measure, leaving students and colleges in the dark about their financial support in the coming year. The Act would move all federal student loans to the government Direct Lending Program, thereby eliminating tax-payer funded subsidies for private lenders and saving \$87 billion over the next ten years.

Betty Walker Smith, Education and Media
* In "Class Dismissed" by Walter Kirn in the New York Times Magazine, Feb. 28, it was reported that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation intends to give a \$1.5 million grant to the NCEE project.
